

From: Kevin McDaniel
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/28/02 12:11pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Distiguished Gentlemen,

Please accept my attached letter of opinion for your consideration on the current Microsoft Settlemt Case. I am hopeful my opinions will be mirrored in policy by the party and administration I so adamantly support.

Respectfully,

Kevin McDaniel
President
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Arrival Technologies, Inc.

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January 16, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I suspect the Justice Department offered to settle its antitrust lawsuit against Microsoft due to your taking over as head of the agency. As a reasonable man you probably recognize the Clinton Administration's antitrust suit against Microsoft, and their intended break-up of the company, jeopardized software innovation and standardization. This scenario would seriously hinder the United States' competitive edge and is why the settlement should be finalized without further ado.

If one accepts the premise that Microsoft is a monopoly, which I do not, the settlement will cure the problem. The settlement speaks for itself: 1) Microsoft has agreed not to retaliate against computer makers who ship software that competes with anything in its Windows operating system; 2) Microsoft has agreed not to retaliate against the software developers who make or promote the software that competes with Microsoft.

While these are only two tenets of the 22 pages of the settlement, they alone should make Microsoft's competitors happy because they will inhibit anti-competitive behavior. I find it curious that certain opponent's of Microsoft reject the settlement and refuse to sign on to it. It is unfortunate; they should not be allowed to derail the process.

I am a small business owner in South Mississippi who specializes in computer networking and software support. It is my steadfast belief that the free market should be allowed to determine which products are bought and sold by professionals in the industry. Microsoft offers superior products and this is why they possess the market share they do. This lawsuit has not only affected my business but also my investments in the market. It is my hope that the government will accept the settlement in as timely a manner as possible so our industry can begin to heal from this unnecessary intrusion into the free market.

Sincerely,



Kevin McDaniel
President

Cc: Senator Trent Lott

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